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Finley Letters

James B. Finley Letters

1-28-1836

Letter from William Burke to James B. Finley

William Burke

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15th Feb 27
messent & food
William Burke
Post Master

Rev. James B. Finley, Mayville,
Miss Sarah Lord P. E. M. E. Church
Cincinnati O. ~~Mayville~~
Newark, N. Y. Mayville Ohio,

Medium Bonds
Set on
his return
H. H. M. D.

Dear Bro,

Post Office Cincinnati
28th Jan'y 1836

In the Negotiation of the Case pending in your Annual Conference in Relation to my Case I have kept with you altogether. From & after the time you stated to me that you was one of a Committee Appointed to report &c.

You will recollect in the first stages of the proposition made through our mutual friend Judge McLean for a reconciliation, and mutual understanding of the past. that it was anticipated, that the case would have a favourable termination to the satisfaction of all parties concerned, and a friendly intercourse was commenced and kept up between yourself and me, and the Society in Cincinnati, during your stay. at the first Conference. a misunderstanding took place in consequence of the Conference misunderstanding my views with regard to the final action of the Genl. Conference in order ^{to} consummate the reconciliation when the Conference met in this place the negotiation was renewed and you appointed one of a Committee to inquire into and make a report to the next Conference, you drew up the report and had the goodness to submit it to my inspection. I approved the report and have since waited the final action of the annual Conference preparatory to the ensuing Genl. Conference

Since which time I have heard Nothing officially on the Subject. Last fall I received a line from you in answer to some inquiries that I made. you stated that you would bring the business before the Conference last fall. I have had no information from you or any other person on the Subject since. I should be glad to know what the An. Conference did in the premises. how they have disposed of the Case. whether it is on the Table or under the Table. or dismissed finally. There are several Considerations that makes ^{me} a little anxious to know something about it 1st my old friends at a distance look upon & receive me with friendship having understood that all matters in controversy were settled. and my old friend Bishop McKimbro was impressed with that idea the last interview I had with ^{him} just before his death. which I am fully convinced he most devoutly wished, and I have no disposition to intrude. consequently I am sometimes placed in a delicate situation. 2nd Since your last An. Conference reports have reach me thro' letters and otherwise. that my Character was so bad, that I had offered to join the E. M. but they refused me admittance. I had hoped that the evening of my life connected or not connected with any Church would be tranquil, for no Preacher now living ever laboured or suffered more than I have done for the Cause of God. and the M. E. C. and now I am old. and on the eve of my departure. I want to be at peace with all men.

Since you left this quarter I have had but little Connection with the Society. The preachers appear not to

know Joseph. and I am content to be little and unknown but do not wish to have my name bandied about. to my disadvantage.

I should be glad to receive a line from you giving me in detail how the matter stands together with your views. as perhaps you know more of the business than any Preacher now living in the bounds of this Conference and I believe have taken a deeper interest in my behalf, after having understood the grounds of the difficulty.

I am also placed in difficulty with many of the members of the Society in this place. who charge me with standing off and not preaching as I did when you were here. They not knowing the true Cause and I do not feel at liberty to make any disclosures. I shall wait your answer.

Rev J. B. Finley

With sentiments of esteem
I am Sir your most Obedient
William Burke